ernment Proceedings on the subject, copies of which have just been circulated to the Hon'ble Members. Let us wish the new committee God-speed in the discharge of the important duty entrusted to it.

I thank my Hon'ble colleague and friend, your Deputy President, from the bottom of my heart for the kind words he has said of me, and I pray that I may deserve them by my actual conduct of the proceedings of this House.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Not only myself but the whole House.

**President.**—Yes, I am very grateful to the whole House. Now we shall proceed with the regular business of the day.

# Questions and Answers.

## Article in Mahathi—Election.

1. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether their attention has been called to the article in the Mahathi of 5th Chingam 1108 under the caption "ക ഖ കരാമ തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പ് by ഖഗ് ഘരങ്കി" ;

(2) have the Government made any inquiries regarding the charge made therein ;

(3) if so, with what result ?

**Mr. P. V. Raphael.**—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) No irregularity in the conduct of the election was found out.

## Article in മാതി—Cashing of Bills.

2. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether they have seen the article "ഖന" ഖപീകരണ ശ്രമം by ചെയർ in the Mahathi of 5th Chingam 1108 ;

(2) whether the charge laid at the door of the Registrar of Panchayats has any foundation ;

(3) if so, what action have the Government taken to avoid such misunderstandings ?

**Mr. P. V. Raphael.**—(1) Yes.

(2) It is true that some bills were cashed in the office in the last days of Karkadagam, but there was no misunderstanding among any one and the contractors were satisfied with the arrangements made.

(3) Does not arise in view of answer to (2).

## Prosecuting Inspector.

3. **Mr. K. Ayyappan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

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(1) whether the present Prosecuting Inspector has been asked to do the work of both the divisions together ;

(2) whether it means double work for the officer ;

(3) whether there was any motion in the Budget Session of the Council for increasing his pay ;

(4) whether there was any suggestion in Council to give him the maximum pay of one officer ;

(5) what the reply of the Government was in this connection ;

(6) whether they have done anything in conformity with the spirit of the reply ;

(7) how the pay of the Prosecuting Inspector compares with that of the corresponding officer in Travancore and British India ; and

(8) whether the predecessor of the present Prosecuting Inspector had been given the maximum pay of the grade then available ?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—(1) Yes.

(2) Not exactly.

(3) The point was raised by means of a question.

(4) Yes.

(5) The Government will consider the matter.

(6) The question is under consideration.

(7) The pay of the Prosecuting Inspector of this State is less than that of the Prosecuting Inspectors of Travancore and British India.

(8) Yes. He was drawing the maximum pay including duty allowance at the time of the appointment as Prosecuting Inspector.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—(2). I would like to know what is meant by the expression 'not exactly'.

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—Government thought that there was not sufficient work for two men. That was the reason why one post was abolished temporarily as a measure of experiment. And as I said it does not amount to double work.

**Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—(6). May I know how long do the Government think it necessary to keep this question under consideration ?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—As long as the Government think it necessary.

**Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—For how many months past has this matter been engaging the attention of Government ?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—Ever since the point was raised in this Council.

**Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—This is a matter which is engaging the consideration of the Government. I just want to know how

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long this matter has been engaging the attention of the Government and how long it will require further consideration also.

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I can only say that as long as Government think it necessary.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—May I know, Sir, whether there was a petition from the present incumbent of the office in Chingam last regarding an identical question?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I believe there was some petition. I can't definitely say what the prayers were, without notice.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Is the Government making any progress in the matter of consideration or are they remaining stagnant?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I do not think they remain stagnant. Anyway these are signs of progress.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Has the petition been disposed of?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I think it is disposed of.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—May I know how it was disposed of?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I want notice, because there were ever so many prayers in that petition.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—With regard to his prayer of granting the maximum of the grade, namely, Rs. 150, may I know whether that point has been disposed of favourably or unfavourably?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I do not exactly remember. I should think it was disposed of unfavourably. More details cannot be furnished now.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—May I know whether the question of giving the maximum pay is still under the consideration of Government?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—It is already answered.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—(7). May I know how much less?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—There is no definite information.

**Mr. P. Krishna Menon**—May I know the nature of the consideration? Is it by way of collecting statistics or is it merely intellectual?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon**—The advisability of giving the maximum amount and various other considerations must come into play, such as, the nature of the work, the quality of the work and the previous proceedings on the subject, etc. All these will have to be considered, because the appointment was

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made as a temporary experiment and in the experiment stage it may not be advisable to give the maximum.

**Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—Is that experiment successful?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon** —It is too early to say now.

**Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Has he not been in the post for the last ten months?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—I think about nine or ten months.

**Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Has his work during that period been examined to find out the quality of his work?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—Not with that particular eye. After a period of one year the matter will be looked into.

**Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—Generally, till this period, has his work been very satisfactory?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—It was more or less satisfactory. For a definite statement I must look to the statistics.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—(8). The predecessor of the present Prosecuting Inspector is said to have been allowed to draw the maximum. May I know the reason why?

**Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.**—He was already drawing the maximum pay as a Probationary Inspector.

## Circular—pay—aided school teachers.

4. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the Director of Public Instruction has issued a circular to the effect that when aided school teachers working in higher grades are reverted to lower grades owing to the abolition of classes, they will be eligible only for the minimum pay of the grade to which they are reverted even though they might have worked in the grades and earned increments previously;

(2) if so, will they be pleased to place a copy of the circular on the table;

(3) whether there were complaints against that order;

(4) whether this circular is still in force?

**Mr. I. N. Menon.**—(1) Yes.

(2) A copy of the circular is placed on the table. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

(3) There were personal representations.

(4) No.

## Pay—Headmasters of High Schools.

5. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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